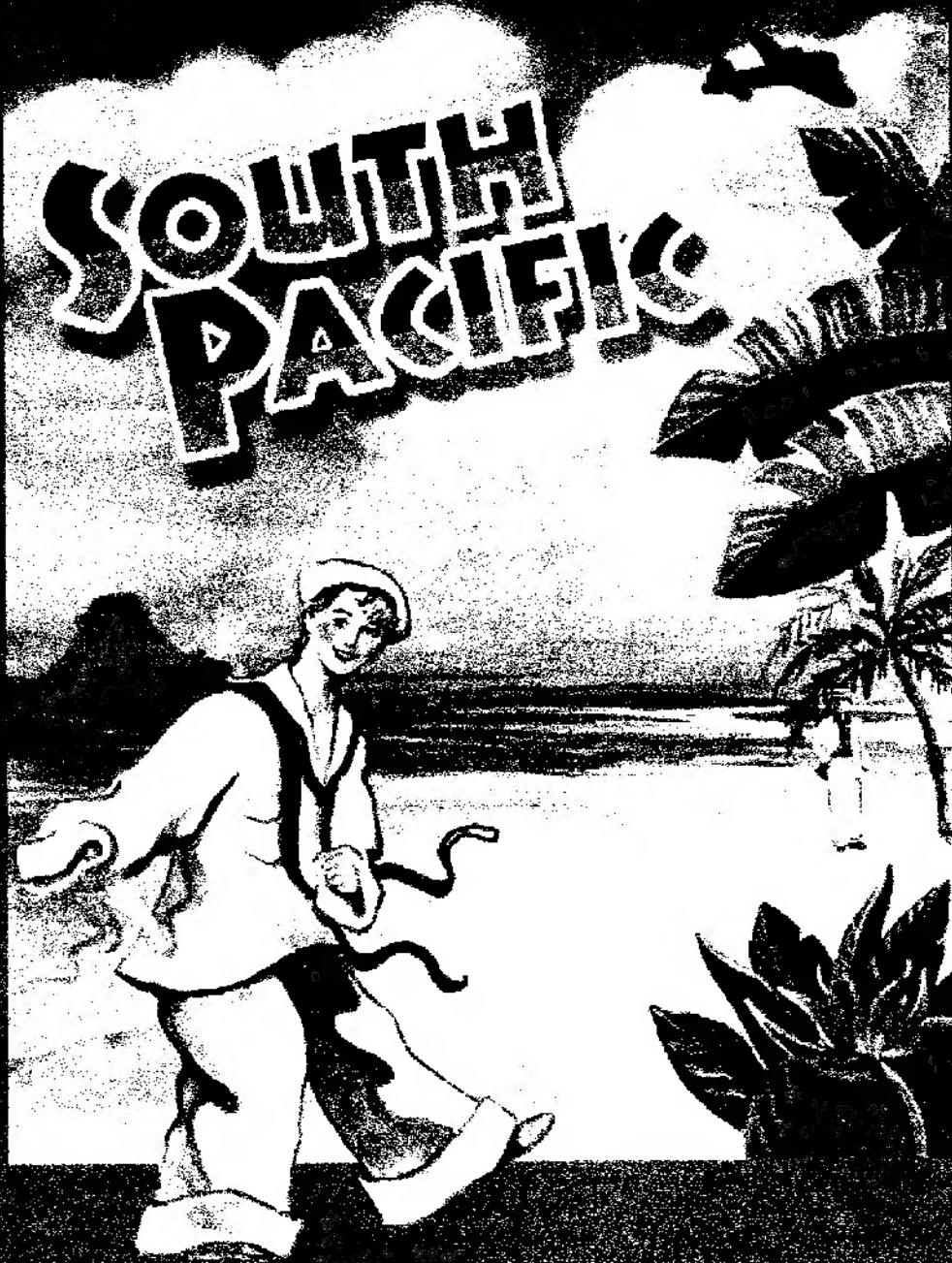


ALGONQUIN ARTS AND
THE WESTFIELD YOUNG ARTISTS' COOPERATIVE THEATRE
IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER'S
SUMMER MUSICAL PRODUCTION

Proudly Present



AT THE **Algonquin Arts** THEATRE IN MANASQUAN, NJ

Algonquin Arts



NJPAC



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THE WESTFIELD YOUNG ARTISTS' COOPERATIVE THEATRE
IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER'S
SUMMER MUSICAL PRODUCTION

Proudly Present



Music by
RICHARD RODGERS
Lyrics By
OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

Book By **OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II** and **JOSHUA LOGAN**
Adapted from the Pulitzer Prizewinning novel
"Tales of the South Pacific" by James A. Michener

Musical Direction
ILENE GREENBAUM

Choreography
SHERRY ALBAN

Directed by
CYNTHIA MERYL

Set Design
JEREMY DOUCETTE

Costumes
CHELSEA HARRIMAN

Lighting Design
CHRIS DALLOS

Sound Design
MICHAEL SINCLAIR/AUDIO INC.

The Algonquin Arts Theatre, 68 Abe Voorhees Drive, Manasquan, NJ 08736
Wednesday and Thursday, July 31 and August 1, 11:30 am
Fridays and Saturdays, July 26-27 & August 2-3, 8:00 pm
Sundays, July 28 & August 4, 2:00 pm

This production of *"South Pacific"* was originally produced in 2002 at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center by the Westfield Young Artists' Cooperative Theatre in Association with New Jersey Performing Arts Center's Summer Musical Production, and was made possible in part by the generous support of the Turrell Fund.

This program is also made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and by funds from the Westfield Foundation.

"South Pacific" is presented in special arrangement with
the Rodgers & Hammerstein Theatre Library,
229 West 28th Street, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10001

Cast of characters

Ensign Nellie Forbush.....	Katie Anson
Emile de Beque.....	Mark Perman*
Ngana, Emile's daughter.....	Desiree Williams
Jerome, Emile's son.....	Joseph Foster
Jacqueline, Ngana's friend.....	Chelsea Meyers
Maurice, Jerome's friend.....	Edward Tolve
Henri, Emile's native servant.....	Ciano Clerjuste
Bloody Mary.....	Kiyaana Cox
Liat, Bloody Mary's daughter.....	Carol Feiger / Angelique Cinelo+
Luther Billis.....	Richard McNanna
Stewpot (Carpenter's Mate Second Class, George Watts).....	Jon Christian Hoche
Professor.....	John Kurzynowski
Lt. Joseph Cable, United States Marine Corps.....	Corey Grigg
Capt. George Brackett, United States Navy.....	Kevin Kaye
Cmdr. William Harbison, United States Navy.....	Paulo Quiros
Lt. Buzz Adams.....	Sean Elias
Yeoman Herbert Quale, Sailor.....	Brandon Dennis
Ensign Dinah McGregor.....	Betsy Paynter
Yeoman Bob McCaffrey, Radio Operator.....	Todd Kubrak

Marines, Soldiers, Sailors and Seabees:.....Adam Biner, Gary Gainey, Gregory Hanks,
Joshua Hemphill, Kwame Micah, Patrick Pangan, Matthew Wojtal.

Nurses:.....Marissa Cucuzza, Kelly Hrehovcik, Lauren Hrehovcik, Betsy Paynter,
Jaclyn Ingoglia, Lena Leson, Lauren Lindner, Deanna Martinez, Amanda Maxfield,
Jill McCoy, Mercedes Padilla, Ambe Williams, Christine Danelson, Dakota Nave Hurtt

Nun and French Students:.....Christine Danelson & Lena Leson, Lauren Lindner,
Jill McCoy, Josh Hemphill, Adam Biner

Bali Ha'i Islanders:.....Gary Gainey, Gregory Hanks, Mercedes Padilla,
Patrick Pangan, Dakota Nave Hurt, Ambe Williams, Cheylena Williams, Kwame Micah

Native Dancers:.....Deanna Martinez, Carol Feiger/Angelique Cinelo

+Ms. Feiger appears as Liat on July 26 & 28, and on August 1 & 3

+Ms. Cinelo appears as Liat on July 27 & 31, and on August 2 & 4

Understudies

Nellie Forbush: Betsy Paynter; **Emile de Becque:** Richard McNanna;
Lt. Cable: Paulo Quiros; **Bloody Mary:** Dakota Nave Hurtt;
Professor: Joshua Hemphill; **Quale:** Kwame Micah; **Jerome:** Patrick Pangan;
Ngana: Cheylena Williams; **Harbison & Stewpot:** Brandon Dennis;
Billis: Sean Elias; **Henri:** Gary Gainey; **Buzz:** Todd Kubrak;
Brackett: Jon Christian Hoche

* Appearing with permission of Actors' Equity Association

Orchestra

Musical Conductor: Ilene Greenbaum

Assistant Musical Conductor: Meghann Zervoulis

Tiffany Angood: Flute, **Daniel Batchelder:** Violin, **Lisa Chin,** Viola, **Louis Cruz:** Trumpet,
Rachel Dreyfus: Trombone, **Andrea Falk:** Flute, **Guiseppe Fusco:** Clarinet,
Kristina Gannon: French Horn, **Daniel Hedinger:** Violin, **Nicole Hedinger:** Bassoon,
Charles Hely: Percussion, **Tiffany Hui:** Cello, **Blaine Iler:** Violin, **Emily Katehis:** Bassoon,
Thomas Killian: Violin & Tuba, **Kristen Mulgrew:** Violin, **Gregory Nicholas:** Oboe,
Jason O'Connor: Violin, **David Reinhardt:** Trumpet, **Jessica Sibelman:** Clarinet,
Laurie Simko: Violin, **Norbal Vazquez:** Trumpet, **Jordan Warner:** Bass,
Ian Wehrle: Ukelele, **Flora Yousefi:** Violin.



Musical Synopsis

The action of the play takes place on two islands in the South Pacific during World War II.
There is one week's lapse of time between the two acts.

ACT 1

OVERTURE

Prologue: A little island south of Marie Louise

Scene 1: The Terrace of Emile de Beque's Plantation Home

DITES-MOI.....Ngana, Jerome, Jacqueline & Maurice
A COCKEYED OPTIMIST.....Nellie
TWIN SOLILOQUIES.....Nellie & Emile
SOME ENCHANTED EVENING.....Emile
Reprise: DITES-MOI.....Emile, Ngana & Jerome

Scene 2: The Beach

BLOODY MARY.....Sailors, Seabees & Marines
THERE IS NOTHIN' LIKE A DAME.....Billis, Sailors, Seabees & Marines
BALI HA'I.....Bloody Mary
Reprise: BALI HA'I.....Joe

Scene 3: The Company Street

Scene 4: Inside the Island Commander's Office

Scene 5: The Company Street

Scene 6: Billis' Bath Club on the Beach

I'M GONNA WASH THAT MAN RIGHT OUT-A MY HAIR.....Nellie & Nurses
Reprise: SOME ENCHANTED EVENING.....Nellie & Emile
A WONDERFUL GUY.....Nellie & Nurses

Scene 7: Inside the Island Commander's Office

Scene 8: The Dock at Bali Ha'i

Reprise: BALI HA'I.....French & Native Girls

Scene 9: Inside Bloody Mary's Hut on Bali Ha'i

YOUNGER THAN SPRINGTIME.....Joe

Scene 10: The Dock at Bali Ha'i

Reprise: BALI HA'I.....French & Native Girls

Scene 11: Emile's Terrace

Reprises: WONDERFUL GUY, TWIN SOLILOQUIES,
A COCKEYED OPTIMIST, I'M GONNA WASH THAT
MAN RIGHT OUT-A MY HAIR.....Nellie & Emile
Reprise: SOME ENCHANTED EVENING.....Emile

There will be one fifteen minute intermission.

ACT 2

ENTR'ACTE

Scene 1: A Performance of "The Thanksgiving Follies"

DANCE.....Nellie, Nurses & G.I.s

Scene 2: Backstage at "The Thanksgiving Follies"

Scene 3: A Secluded Part of the Beach

HAPPY TALK.....Bloody Mary & Liat

Reprise: YOUNGER THAN SPRINGTIME

Scene 4: "The Thanksgiving Follies" Resume

HONEY BUN.....Nellie, Billis & Nurses

Scene 5: Backstage at "The Thanksgiving Follies"

YOU'VE GOT TO BE CAREFULLY TAUGHT.....Joe

THIS NEARLY WAS MINE.....Emile

Scene 6: A Landing Strip on the Island

Scene 7: Inside the Island Commander's Office

Scene 8: Inside the Commander's Office / Marie Louise

Scene 9: The Company Street

Scene 10: A Secluded Part of the Beach

Reprise: SOME ENCHANTED EVENING.....Nellie

Scene 11: The Company Street

Reprise: HONEY BUN.....Sailors, Seabees & Marines

Scene 12: Emile's Terrace

Reprise: DITES-MOI.....Nellie, Ngana, Jerome & Emile

Dear Patrons,

The Westfield Young Artists' Cooperative Theatre, Inc. (WYACT) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide a high-quality education in the theatrical arts, in both performing and technical areas, to aspiring young talent across New Jersey; and to introduce to them and the population at large, not only cultural and classic theatrical events, but lesser-known significant works rarely produced in the State.

The original idea for WYACT was to provide young people with a summer stock atmosphere free from the pressures of schoolwork, where they could learn the crafts of theatre as well as have a good time. Our talented participants over the years share the dream of becoming professional performers, so WYACT and NUPAC provide guidance from an experienced professional staff in a professional venue, the Victoria Theatre at NUPAC. This year, WYACT and NUPAC presented "South Pacific" and are delighted to now bring the production to the Algonquin Arts Theatre (AAT) in Manasquan. The production will play from July 26 through August 4 at AAT. Following "South Pacific's" run, WYACT, in association with AAT, is presenting "Dames At Sea" at AAT from August 14 through August 18. Considering the need for arts funding, networking is the key to theatre survival. We are proud that WYACT, NUPAC, and AAT are uniting to achieve this purpose.

We are also proud of our young participants who elect their own Executive Committee and take responsibility for the summer productions by organizing and developing fundraisers such as our "Cabarets," fashion shows, car washes, and canister drives. They experience firsthand, not only all the complexities of mounting first-rate theatrical productions, but what it takes to achieve their goals. All the participants experience true self-esteem derived from the satisfaction of having accomplished such enormous tasks.

We would like to thank all of WYACT's families and friends who help make WYACT's productions possible. We continue to apply for grants and gratefully welcome donations, and would heartily like to thank the Westfield Foundation, the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the State Council On The Arts and the Union County Division of Cultural Affairs for their constant belief in our vision. We especially would like to thank Frances Drew, Executive Director and Jack Drew, President of AAT, for their support and belief in WYACT's talents. We are honored and delighted to be invited to AAT to bring a youth theatre company: youth cast, youth orchestra, and youth "tech" apprentices in a production of "South Pacific" to AAT, as well to present "Dames At Sea" on the Algonquin Arts Stage.

Before they enter my musical theatre classes, so many of my students have never heard of Rodgers and Hammerstein, and, those who have, connect the writing team with shows that have milk toast, goody-two-shoes plots. The truth is: the team wrote "musical plays" with very intense themes: "Carousel," for example, is about domestic violence and the strength of women to overcome adversity; "Oklahoma!" is about exuberant Americans hoping their territory will become a state; "The Sound of Music" demonstrates the Austrian's reactions to Nazis coming into power; and of course, "South Pacific" is about racial prejudice.

"South Pacific" is a classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musical based on James A. Michener's Pulitzer Prizewinning novel, *Tales Of The South Pacific*. It opened at the Majestic Theatre in New York on April 7, 1949. The major plot involves the love affair between Nellie Forbush, a young, optimistic, charming nurse from Little Rock, and the sophisticated, middle-aged planter Emile De Becque. The second plot revolves around the love between Lt. Joe Cable and the Tonkinese beauty, Liat. Liat's Mother, Bloody Mary, would like to see them marry. The common denominator between Nellie and Joe: neither will marry their true loves because of racial prejudice. Joe sings: "You've Got To Be Taught to be afraid of people whose eyes are ugly made, and people whose skin is a different shade. You've Got To Be Carefully Taught."

"Dames At Sea" is an all-singing, all-dancing, high-camp, hilarious tap extravaganza with a cast of six, based on the nostalgia of 1930s Hollywood musicals. It spoofs films such as "42nd Street," "Goldiggers of 1933," and "Dames." Today, in a time of such uncertainty and stress, it is meaningful and necessary to take time to laugh, and also to revisit important works such as "South Pacific," a play which forces us to question yet again: Why can't human beings accept each other, and not judge by appearances? Considering recent events in the world today, don't we need both?

Enjoy both shows,

Cynthia Meryl
Artistic Director

Biographies

2002 "South Pacific" Cast

KATIE ANSON (Nellie) is thrilled to be making her debut at NIPAC and the Algonquin Arts Theatre as Nellie, the leading role in *South Pacific*. She currently attends Watchung Regional High School and is a student in the SCVTHS Performing Arts Department as a musical theater major. Although this is her first year with WYACT, she has performed in many other shows including: *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Crazy For You*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Katie has recently been recognized with "Honorable Mention" in the Paper mill Playhouse's Rising Star Competition for her work in *Richard Rodgers: A Centennial Celebration of his Music*, directed by Cynthia Meryl. She would like to thank her friends and family for their constant support and the cast and crew for a summer she will never forget! She would especially like to thank her Mom and John for all of their dedication, enthusiasm and love. "Don't dream it, believe it!"

ADAM BINDER (Ensemble) is making his fifth appearance at NIPAC with WYACT in *South Pacific*. He previously appeared in *Once On This Island*, *Carousel*, *Oliver!* and *Brigadoon*. He has also appeared in *A Midsummer's Night Dream* (Puck), *The Matchmaker* (Barnaby) and *A Christmas Carol* (Tiny Tim) in a joint production with the Cranford Dramatic Club. Adam has been active in community, dinner and professional theater for several years including feature roles in *On Borrowed Time*, *The Nerd*, and in Paper Mill Playhouse's production of *Carousel*. In addition to acting and musical theater, Adam loves to dance and studies ballet, tap, jazz hip-hop. He wishes to thank his family, friends and Ms. Meryl for all their support.

ANGELIQUE CINELO (Liat/Bali Ha'i Dancer) Born to a family filled with talent, it is no surprise that Angelique has found her home in the limelight. Gaining confidence and exposure at a young age through commercial and catalogue work, she then moved onto other more demanding performance areas. As a former student of the New Jersey Ballet Dance Company, and the daughter of a musician, singing and dancing were set in place and acting was soon to follow. She soon found a home in musical theater, a genre where she could incorporate all of her talents. She has earned several lead roles in school productions: *Bye Bye Birdie* (Kim), *Damn Yankees* (Lola), *How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying* (Heidi LaRue). As a student of the University of Virginia, Angelique juggles a rigorous academic schedule while pursuing her dreams of being an actor, singer and dancer. She is thrilled to be performing with WYACT, gaining experience and exposure.

CIANO CLERJUSTE (Henry) Born in Gonaives, Haiti, Ciano has been in the performing arts field for nine years. He began his training in 1994 with Une Ecole Nouvelle de Danse de Port-au-Prince. He later joined the Multipot Dance Company. He has performed leading role in *Romeo and Juliet* and *Pas De Dix*. Ciano will graduate in 2003 with a Bachelor of International Business and Management degree and will be doing his Master's in Theater and Dance at NYU.

KIYAANA COX (Bloody Mary) was born and raised in Newark, New Jersey and started singing at the age of five in church. She started acting at the age of eight in a church play. She attended Washington Academy of Music where she starred in *Molown*, *60's Extravaganza* and *Broadway*. She then participated in the East Orange Summer Theater Program where she also starred in *Mama, I Want To Sing, Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope*, *West Side Story* and *Fame*. She is a member of Theater Workshop's Peppermint Players. Last summer she had the pleasure of working with WYACT in *Once on this Island* as Asaka. She performed a one-woman show at City Hall and on Ms. Kitty's Poetry Show. She now attends Arts High School as a junior drama major. She plans to graduate and attend Hampton University. She is overwhelmed with joy to be working with WYACT once again.

Biographies

2002 "South Pacific" Cast continued

MARISA CUCUZZA (Ensemble) is in her second year with WYACT and she is thrilled to be in both. Last year she was part of the Greek Chorus in WYACT's *Once On This Island* at NIPAC. Previous stage credits include *Hello Dolly* (Ermengarde), *Anything Goes* (Chinese Convert), *Crazy For You* (Follies Girl), *George M!* (Josie Cohan), *Li'l Abner* (Daisy Mae), *Guys And Dolls* (Sarah Brown), *The Boyfriend* (Polly Browne), *Joseph... ...Dreamcoat* (Narrator), and *Foolhouse* (Ariel Moore) among many others. Following *South Pacific*, Marisa will be playing Joan in WYACT's production of *Dames At Sea* at the Algonquin Theatre in Manasquan. Marisa just graduated from Nutley High School and will be attending Rutgers College, New Brunswick this fall. Thanks to family and friends for all of their love and support (esp. Mom, Dada, Nana, Grandma, Papa, P, BB and TH) Special thanks to Cynthia and the rest of WYACT for giving her the opportunity to perform with such a great and talented cast! Break a leg guys!

CHRISTINE DANELSON (Ensemble) is ecstatic to be in her first production with WYACT/NIPAC in the ensemble of *South Pacific*. She is a two-year veteran of NIPAC's SYPW and of the Little Opera Company of New Jersey. She is a Bronze Medalist in their opera competition. Past performances include: *Bye Bye Birdie* (Rosie), *Annie* (Annie), *Cinderella* (Esmerelda), *Gesualdo* (Celia/Leanora) and in *Cavaleria Rusticana* as the soloist dancer.

BRANDON DENNIS (Herbert Quale) is 17 years old and attends Somerset Vocational and Technical High School. He studied commercial art in his freshman year. He then auditioned and was accepted into the Performing Arts Department. After studying Drama for a year, he switched to Musical Theater. After high school, he plans to attend Rutgers Mason Gross. After college, he plans to pursue an acting and singing career.

SEAN ELIAS (Buzz Adams) is thrilled to be making his NIPAC and WYACT debut in *South Pacific* as Lt. Buzz Adams. Previous credits include: *Leader Of The Pack* (Jeff Barry), *South Pacific* (Luther Billis), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Mr. Harry McAfee), *Grandma Sylvia's Funeral* (Stuart "Skyboy" Grossman), and *A Chorus Line* (Don Kerr). He also performed in New York City at the Triad Theater as well as at various theaters throughout New Jersey. Sean would like to thank and dedicate this performance to everyone who has supported him throughout the years and helped him turn his dreams into reality, especially his family.

CAROL FEIGER (Liat/Bali Ha'I Dancer) is proud to be making her NIPAC/WYACT debut in *South Pacific*. She recently performed in: *Children Of Eden* (Yonah) at CCM, *A Chorus Line* (Cassie) at the JCC Metrowest, *West Side Story* (Anita) and *South Pacific* (Bloody Mary) at the Clifton JCC, *West Side Story* (Rosalina) and *Mame* (Pegeen Ryan and featured dancer) at the JCC Metrowest, and *Romeo And Juliet* (Juliet) and *Taming Of The Shrew* (Bianca). She dedicates the show to her family for their constant love and support, her sisters (SS, TT, DT), her sweethearts (SE, JJ), and her love (AA). A thank-you to the production crew for this amazing opportunity.

JOSEPH N. FOSTER (Jerome) feels very blessed to be making his NIPAC/WYACT musical debut in *South Pacific*. He has been dancing since a very early age and he is also a singer, songwriter and model. His hobbies are painting and art. He has appeared as a model in school brochures for educational tools. He is enrolled in the Union Township school system.

GARY GAINES (Ensemble) is a native of Ocean County in Southern Jersey and plans to attend Rutgers College in the Fall. You may have seen him in past productions of *Oliver!*, *Carousel* and *A Chorus Line* at the Strand Theater or in *Jesus Christ Superstar* at the Spring Lake Theater. He is currently a performing arts student at Lakehurst Career and Technical School.

Biographies

2002 "South Pacific" Cast continued

COREY GRIGG (Lt. Joseph Cable) is in his third appearance with WYACT following *Once On This Island* (Greek Chorus) and *Richard Rodgers: A Centennial Celebration Of His Music*. He will also be appearing as Hennessey and the Captain in WYACT's second summer production, *Dames At Sea*. Other roles include *The Mystery Of Edwin Drood* (Jasper), *Into The Woods* (Prince Charming/Wolf), *The Mousetrap* (Major Metcalf) and *Moon Over Buffalo* (Paul Singer). Corey has won numerous awards both as a vocalist and instrumentalist including top soloist awards at the New Jersey All-State Opera Festival, the New Jersey State Teen Arts festival and the NJAE State Jazz Festival. Corey recently received the New Jersey Governor's Award in Arts Education. This fall Corey will start his senior year at Bridgewater-Raritan High School. He would like to dedicate his performance to the memory of his grandfather who served in the United States Navy during World War II in the Pacific Theater when he was not much older than Corey is now.

GREGORY HANKS (Ensemble) is ecstatic to be returning to the NJPAC stage in his second WYACT production *South Pacific*. This year, Gregory has been in numerous shows, including *Funny Girl* in which he was the featured male dancer and *Stand And Deliver*. Recently Gregory competed in the new Jersey City University's Shakespeare as Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Aside from performing in shows, Gregory loves dancing. He trains with the Phoenix-Academy for the Performing Arts and, in the coming year, Gregory can be seen dancing with his school's Special Dance Company. Gregory loves the arts and hopes to further his career in film and stage in the future.

JOSHUA HEMPHILL (Ensemble) is thrilled to be performing in his fifth year at NJPAC with WYACT. Past credits include playing Young Tommy in the *Who's Tommy* at NJPAC with Jeffrey Finn Productions, *The Nutcracker* with the American Repertory Ballet, and *Carousel*, *Oliver!*, *Brigadoon* and *Once On This Island* with WYACT at NJPAC. Film credits include *The Palace Thief* with Kevin Kline. His most recent work includes TV commercials for Oreo cookies and the Ad Council. Josh gives special thanks to his manager Lisa Pitliuk, his family and friends for their never-ending love and support. Most of all, "thanks Mom for helping my dreams come true." Josh dedicates each and every performance to the September 11th victims and their families.

JON CHRISTIAN NOCHE (Stewpot) returns to another fun-filled WYACT summer. You may remember him from last year's production of *Once On This Island* as Daniel, the romantic lead. Some of Jon's favorite roles have included: *Enter Laughing* (Marvin), *Cut Among The Pigeons* (Gontran de Chenneviette), *Carousel* (Carousel boy). Now residing in Brooklyn, Jon is finishing up his degree in musical theater at the New School University (NYC). He is also a graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York. He would like to thank everyone involved in getting *South Pacific* on its feet. Also, he cannot thank enough his loving family for their support. Finally, Jon would like to dedicate his performance tonight to his grandmother, Nenita Delfin. She has helped mold Jon into the person he is today. For her, his gratitude is never-ending.

KELLY HREHOVCIK (Ensemble) is thrilled to be performing in her debut performance with WYACT. She has been in many shows including: *My Fair Lady*, *The King And I*, *Some Like It Hot*, *A Christmas Story*, *Annie*, *Me And My Girl* and *Joseph...* for such companies as the Riverside Theater Company, Sunrise Theater Company and Premiere Theater Company; but by far, Kelly's favorite role was Graziella in *West Side Story* this past year. She recently performed as a demi-soloist in the Shore Ballet Company's *Nutcracker*, *Swan Lake* and *Giselle*. Kelly would like to thank her Baba and Dzedeo for housing her, everyone at WYACT, her parents, Mr. Dan and God.

Biographies

2002 "South Pacific" Cast continued

LAUREN HREHOVCIK (Ensemble) has been performing since before she can remember. She has been in productions of: *Me And My Girl*, *Hello Dolly*, *Power Of His Love*, *A Christmas Carol* and has starred in plays such as *Annie* and *Lil Abner*. She sings the national anthem at various sporting events. Although this is Lauren's WYACT debut, she looks forward to doing future work with them. She would like to give special thanks to Mom, Dad, all the crew, and especially her Baba and Dzede for the daily bed and breakfast.

DAKOTA NAVE HURTT (Ensemble) is a sophomore at Westfield High School. Dakota Nave has been with WYACT since she was eight years old. She has danced, acted and sang in *Camelot*, *Fiorello*, *Merrily We Roll Along* and *The Children's Hour* and has also performed in WYACT productions at NIPAC in *Carousel*, *Oliver*, *Brigadoon* and *Once On This Island*. Dakota studies acting, dance and voice with Cynthia Meryl of WYACT and she has been a member of WYACT's Junior Executive Committee for the past three years. Dakota has accepted the position of Dance Captain for WYACT's production of the musical, *Dames At Sea*, to be performed at the Algonquin Arts Theater in Manasquan, New Jersey this August.

JACLYN INGOGLIA (Ensemble) is happy to be returning to the stage of NIPAC after appearing there in WYACT's productions of *Brigadoon* and *Once On This Island*. Other previous productions include *Annie*, *Singin' In The Rain* and *A Chorus Line* (Stella). Jaclyn studies dance, voice and musical theater throughout the year. She has performed in several dance troupes and is a member of the West Essex High School Dance Company. She would like to thank her family and friends for all their on-going support.

KEVIN KAYE (Captain Brackett) has appeared in numerous plays and musicals throughout central and northern New Jersey. Highlights include *I Hate Hamlet* (Barrymore), *Enter Laughing* (Marlowe), *Cabaret* (Ernst), *Lost In Yonkers* (Uncle Louie), *Anything Goes* (Moonface), *A Man For All Seasons* (Norfolk), *Lend Me A Tenor* (Tito) and *Breaking The Code* (Turing). Kevin last performed with WYACT in their winter 1998 production of *A Christmas Carol*.

TODD KUBRAK (Bob McCaffrey) is thrilled to be a part of WYACT's productions of *South Pacific*, and *Dames At Sea* in the leading role of Lucky. This is Todd's fourth year with WYACT. He has performed at NIPAC in the WYACT productions of *Oliver!*, *Brigadoon* and *Once On This Island*. Todd has also been in many musicals at Allegro, New Jersey Productions and most recently in the role of Dazzle in *Starmiles* at Brundage Park Playhouse. During the year Todd trains in acting, private voice and dance with a goal to pursue performing as a career. Next year Todd will graduate from high school and he hopes to attend a performing arts college to study Musical Theater. He would like to wish the cast of both shows the best of luck and thank them for all their support. He would also like to thank Ted and Cynthia for making another amazing summer possible, the NIPAC for giving us such gorgeous facilities, and his family for their unending support!

JOHN KURZYNOWSKI (Professor) is going into his junior year at Point Pleasant Boro High School. Past theater credits include Premiere's *Red, White And Blue*, Spring Lake's production of *Crazy For You* (Big Bob), Allen Production's original rock musical *Insanity* (Narrator), Point Boro's world high school premiere production of *Titanic* (Fred Barret), Point Boro's productions of *A Charlie Brown Christmas* (Shermy), and *Guys And Dolls* (Nicely-Nicely). John is a member of his school's madrigal show choir and forensics team. He is also a two-year member of the New Jersey All-Shore Chorus. John has been tap dancing for eleven years (three years with Ocean Center East, eight years with Rebecca Martin). John would like to thank his family, especially his parents, for their constant support, and the cast and crew of *South Pacific*.

Biographies

2002 "South Pacific" Cast continued

LENA LESON (Ensemble) is a sophomore at Princeton High School, and from Cranbury, New Jersey. This is her first production with WYACT and the NIPAC summer programs. She has had many years of ballet and dance training with the Princeton Ballet School, as well as musical training with individual coaches and singing groups. Lena's most recent role was as Mona in *Chicago* at Princeton High School. She is very excited to be working with WYACT this summer.

LAUREN LINDNER (Ensemble) recently completed her junior year at Summit High School and is happy to be participating in her third WYACT summer. Last year she was seen as Andrea Beauxhomme in *Once On This Island* and more recently as Margy Frake in her school's production of *State Fair*. Later this season, she will be seen as Mona Kent in WYACT's production of *Dames At Sea* and will be part of the New Jersey All State Chorus. Thanks to family and friends for everything.

DEANNA MARTINEZ (Ensemble/Bali Ha'i Dancer) will be a senior this year at Jackson Memorial High School where she performed in three musicals, *Hello Dolly!*, *Wizard Of Oz* and *Grease*. She has been involved in community musical theater since the young age of eight and was recently seen in *West Side Story*. She is excited to be back with WYACT for her fifth year and could not see spending her summer without WYACT and her talented friends who are like family. Her past performances include: *Carousel* (1998), *Oliver!* (1999), *Brigadoon* (2000) and *Once On This Island* (2001). She was also in two motion pictures, *Mickey Blue Eyes* with Hugh Grant, and *Finding Forrester* with Sean Connery. She attends Broadway Dance, where she studies dance with noted professionals in the NYC area. She thanks her family and friends for their support.

AMANDA MAXFIELD (Ensemble) is thrilled to be back for her third summer with WYACT at NIPAC in the role of a nurse in *South Pacific*. Previously she performed as one of Fagin's gang in *Oliver!*, and a child in *Brigadoon*. Amanda's most recent role was Golde in the eighth grade production of *Fiddler On The Roof* in Tewksbury Township. She has studied with Cynthia Meryl for four years.

JILL MCCOY (Ensemble) is a sophomore at Cranford High School and is thrilled to be making her debut with WYACT on the NIPAC stage. Previously she has appeared in numerous school shows including *Oliver!* (Nancy), *The Diary Of Anne Frank* (Margot), *Peter Pan* (Slightly Soiled), and *Hello Dolly!* (Ensemble). She currently studies voice and acting with Cynthia Meryl and dance with Cindy Smith in Cranford. Thanks and love to the cast, crew, her family, and everyone who has made *South Pacific* a success.

RICH McNANNA (Luther Billis) is a 2000 graduate of Seton Hall University. *South Pacific* marks Rich's sixth WYACT production. Rich is coming off his most recent performance as Lt. Joseph Cable in the Cranford Dramatic Club's production of *South Pacific* and his first professional stage appearance as Pinocchio in the Yates Musical Theater production of *Pinocchio*. Other stage credits include Billy Bigelow in *Carousel* (WYACT), Tommy Albright in *Brigadoon* (WYACT) and Nathan Detroit in *Guys And Dolls* (SHU). Rich has also recently completed work on his first film/television credits as voices in two Japanese imported animated series, *Heoh And The Blazatrons* and *Gokudo*. Rich would like to thank WYACT, his family, friends and Lucky dog.

CHELSEA MEYERS (Jacqueline) is making her debut on the NIPAC stage with WYACT in *South Pacific*. She participated in WYACT's 2001 New Year's Eve concert in Westfield, *Richard Rodgers - A Centennial Celebration Of His Music* and also in WYACT's 2002 Spring Cabaret. Chelsea is ten years old and is currently in fourth grade. She is presently taking musical theater classes with Cynthia Meryl and has been taking dance lessons since the age of three. She would like to thank her parents and brothers, Louis and Douglas, for their love and support.

Biographies

2002 "South Pacific" Cast continued

KWAME MICAH (Ensemble) – See Staff Bios

MERCEDES PADILLA (Ensemble) is a senior at Newark's Arts High School, graduating this year as a vocal major. She has been involved in music videos, fashion shoots, and prose readings. She placed in Octfinals in Dramatics at Harvard University this year and is a soloist for Latin Bands at school. She has participated in the NIPAC Summer Youth Workshop as a dancer and a singer and will be attending Montclair State University this fall with a minor in musical theater. She is currently part of a singing group working on a demo for Arista Records and Universal Records.

PATRICK MIKHAIL PANGAN (Ensemble) was most recently seen as young Daniel in *Once On This Island*, a Beaton clansman in *Brigadoon* and Fagin gang member in *Oliver!* Many thanks to WYACT and NIPAC for these enriching experiences, much love to Mom, Dad and all my mentors.

BETSY PAYNTER (Dinah McGregor) will soon be a senior at Westfield High School and has performed in nine WYACT productions. Past roles outside of WYACT include Yona in *Children Of Eden* and Adelaide in *Guys And Dolls*. She would like to thank Cynthia Meryt for all her wonderful guidance over the past nine years as well as the entire cast for being so amazing this summer.

MARK J. PERMAN (Emile de Becque) is excited to return to the role of Emile after a brief eleven year interruption. He last played the role at the Bucks County Playhouse in Pennsylvania opposite Eve Plumb (Jan Brady for you trivia buffs). Mark has served Temple Sholom of West Essex in Cedar Grove, New Jersey for the past five years as their Cantor. He is also very pleased to be reunited with his stage brother, Ted Agress, from the 1975 original Broadway production of *Shenandoah*. Mark's other Broadway credit was as a "Shubert Angel" in the 1972 short-lived sequel called *Dude* at the Broadway Theater. He also appeared as the cantor in Paramount's *First Wives Club*, and has done extensive voice-overs and narrations. Mark is a graduate of New York University's "famed" High School of Performing Arts. Mark would like to dedicate his performance in *South Pacific* to the City of Newark which recently became the third town in the nation to adopt the "Sentient Beings Resolution" protecting animals from suffering.

PAULO QUIROS (Bill Harbison) is thrilled to have the experience of acting on such a first class stage, although he first became familiar with NIPAC while singing in the New Jersey All-State Choir. Locally he is known for his animated performances as the Duke of Plaza Toro in *The Gondoliers* and as the villainous Muffy in *Natalie's Night Of Narrative Nonsense*, as well as for the grim intensity he showed in his role of Friar Lawrence in Rem Johannsen's Gothic Vision Of *Romeo And Juliet*. Other major credits of his include *Fiddler On The Roof* (Fyedka/tenor soloist), *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* (Shroeder), *Fatal Beatings* (director), and *It Started With A Sneeze* (director). He has just graduated from high school and will be starting college this fall.

EDWARD TOLVE (Maurice) has performed in as many school plays as they would allow such as *Annie* (Daddy Warbucks) and *Annie Get Your Gun* (Frank Butler). He also has been dancing away doing tap, jazz, hip hop, ballet and lyrical since he was six years old. Edward is thrilled to be a part of this WYACT production.

Biographies

2002 "South Pacific" Cast continued

AMBE WILLIAMS (Ensemble) is proud to be in the WYACT production of *South Pacific*. She has been in many other productions such as: *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Fiddler On The Roof*, and *Wizard Of Oz*. She is also a musical theater student in the Somerset Vocational Technical Program. At this time Ambe wishes to thank Cynthia Meryl and staff for having confidence in her and allowing her to participate in this fabulous production, *South Pacific*.

CHEYLENA WILLIAMS (Ensemble) is a 14-year old student at Hamilton Middle School in Elizabeth, New Jersey. She is of Dominican descent and speaks Spanish. Cheylena studied voice and acting at the Community Performing Arts School in Newark, New Jersey. She studies musical theater, acting, hip hop and ballet at WYACT. She is active in sports and currently holds a blue belt in Aikido. Cheylena is a musician at heart and plays several instruments such as piano, clarinet, xylophone and drums. She is also involved in the performing arts as a liturgical dancer. Cheylena is a lovely girl with aspirations of being a successful actor, singer and dancer. Her recent credits include runway modeling for "Creative Concepts," a leading role in the film short *Happy* as Celeste. She also had a cameo appearance in an info commercial for "Mecca" urban clothing apparel for "Act Now Productions."

DESIREE WILLIAMS (Ngana) is an 11 year old student at Hamilton Middle School in Elizabeth, New Jersey. She is involved in the performing arts as a liturgical dancer. She aspires to be an actress. Her recent credits include runway modeling for "Creative Concepts," a role in the film short *Happy*, and a cameo appearance in an info commercial for "Mecca" urban clothing.

MATTHEW WOJTAŁ (Ensemble) is new to the NIPAC stage and is very excited to be here. Past credits include: *The Bard On Broadway: New Voices 2000* at the Papermill Playhouse, *Oliver!* (Oliver), *Crazy For You* (Bobby) and *Guys And Dolls* (Nathan). He would like to thank his family and friends for their love and support.



John Kurznowski as Professor; Rich McNanna as Luther Billis; John Christian Hoche as Stewpot



Staff Biographies

2002 "South Pacific"

(Key artistic, technical and administrative staff)

Artistic and Stage Director - CYNTHIA MERYL is a thirty year veteran of theatre and television. Ms. Meryl was an original cast member in the Tony-award winning musical *Nine*, with Raul Julia. She played Eliza opposite Noel Harrison in *My Fair Lady*, Nellie opposite Giorgio Tozzi in *South Pacific*, Hedy LaRue opposite Don Porter in *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, Charlotte opposite Pat Paulson in *Beyond Therapy*, in *Side By Side* by Sondheim with Arlene Francis, Hermione Gingold, Hans Conreid, and Dody Goodman, and the list goes on. Cynthia's favorite role is Hortense in Cole Porter's *Gay Divorce*, which she performed at the Equity Library Theatre in New York City, and again at the Goodspeed Opera House in Connecticut. Ms. Meryl was honored to be one of the performers in the United States' celebration of Israel's fortieth anniversary in Washington, D. C.

Adjunct to her extensive performing career, Ms. Meryl is a professional theatre-arts educator, and is currently the Head Administrator and Master Teacher for WYACT's School for the Performing Arts. She works with all age groups, from elementary through college, providing acting and musical theatre classes, as well as private training/coaching in voice. She received the 1995 "Singing Hoosier" Award from Indiana University for dedication to community and country, and the 1996 "Friend to Youth" Award from the Optimist Club.

Ms. Meryl is also President and Artistic Director of the Westfield Young Artists' Cooperative Theatre, Inc. (commonly known as WYACT). Since its inception in 1992, she has directed for the company such classics as *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Stage Door*, *Crimes of the Heart*, *The Children's Hour*, including musicals such as *Carnival*, *Camelot*, *Fiorello*, *The Threepenny Opera*, *The Gay Divorcee*, and *Merrily We Roll Along* for which Worrall Newspapers elected her "Best Director." At the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, she directed WYACT's *Carousel* (1998), *Oliver!* (1999), *Brigadoon* (2000) and *Once On This Island* (2001). The productions received enormous public acclaim for artistic excellence.

Ms. Meryl produces and directs WYACT's annual youth "Cabaret," showcasing students of acting, musical theatre, voice and dance who are focused on pursuing professional careers. Proceeds from this event help support WYACT's summer youth-theatre program. She has also produced and performed in five fundraisers in association with professional actors: the concert *A Quarter To Nine*; three shows directed by Natalie Ross (Enid on *All My Children*), namely *I Do! I Do!*, *Love Letters*, and WYACT's 1994 and 1995 radio-style production of *A Christmas Carol* (adapted for the Stage by Ms. Meryl). Most recently, she created and performed in the New Year's Eve 2001 Concert collaboration with the Westfield Symphony Orchestra entitled "Richard Rodgers, A Centennial Celebration of his Music." This event enabled WYACT to raise money for the Westfield New Jersey families tragically affected on 9/11.



Staff Biographies

Continued

direct the audio installation requirements for Madison Square Garden shows and performances of major artists including Billy Joel, Rush, Blue Oyster Cult, The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and more. In the late 1980s, following extensive experience in audio design and development of sound systems, speaker enclosures and console and control systems, Mr. Sinclair ventured out on his own to start what is highly regarded in the industry today as Audio Incorporated. An international reputation for quality, the company provides audio design, development and installation for major NY theaters, corporate conference rooms, and ballroom and stadium projects around the world. His specialization in digital audio control systems and programming, as well as video conferencing systems, has made Audio Inc. tops in its field. With full time commitment to such commercial enterprise, Mr. Sinclair still finds time to design, and at times operate, audio systems for *youth-theater*. In his third year with WYACT at NIPAC, he says: "These young actors put so much work into their productions, they, too, deserve the best audio I can provide."

Production Stage Manager -- BECKY RAY, following her stage-management of *Tony and Tina's Wedding* in Philadelphia, joins the WYACT season for the first time. In the past, Ms. Ray worked as stage-manager of such productions as *Without Direct Contact*, *Guitar Man*, *Waves at My Back* and *Alligators* for Randy James Dance Work, and *An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Boeuf* for The Theater Project. She was also production stage manager of the Diva Project for the George Street Playhouse, subsequent to her stage-managing their tour last season of *In Between*, *Peacemaker*, *Tomboy* and *Hip-Hop Shakespeare*. She has also enjoyed teaching for the George Street Playhouse and the Growing Stage Theater Company. Ms. Ray is a graduate of Southwestern College in Kansas with a BA in stage management.

Stage Manager -- KWAME MICAH, recognized by NIPAC audiences as an up-and-coming young performer, joins WYACT this season as both performer and assistant stage manager for *South Pacific* and as stage manager of *Dames at Sea*. Mr. Micah began his performing arts career at age eleven. As a student of acting at the Theater Workshop/Peppermint Players, he has performed in such works as *Ain't We Got Heroes Too!*, *Dance Black America*, *Antigone*, *Pandora*, *The Journey*, *Times Square Angel*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Patchwork*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Othello*, *Mother Courage and Her Children*, *Delayed in Kansas*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Frontline Soldiers*, *Scrambled Shakespeare*, *Fences*, *Piano Lesson*, and others. He was a member of the City Kids Repertory, and is now one proud recipient of a 2001 Star Ledger Scholarship in the Performing Arts. His dance studies include ballet and jazz with the Newark Community School for the Arts, acting and modern dance with NIPAC/SYPW, and currently is professional training and dancing with the Albano Ballet Theater and the New England School of Dance where he is on full scholarship. During this school year, Mr. Micah toured with *The Nutcracker*, *American in Paris* and *Now*. He attends Central Connecticut State University and is a Communications major and Performing Arts minor.



Staff Biographies

Continued

Property Master - EVAN DOWNEY is a sophomore at Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University, earning his undergraduate degree in design. Past work with WYACT includes Assistant Props Master for *Brigadoon* and Assistant Props Master and Scenic Artist for *Once on This Island*. Positions at Rutgers include Assistant Lighting Designer for *A Question of Mercy* and Assistant Master Electrician for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Richard Corey*. Best luck to the cast and crew.

Assistant Musical Director/Rehearsal Pianist - MEGHANN ZERVOULIS is a classical pianist from Bayonne, NJ. She has been studying piano for twelve years and is currently a pupil of Julliard Professor John Corrigan. Ms. Zervoulis has also performed in seventeen local as well as regional theater productions. In high school, she won several academic, instrumental and choral honors including the Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star Award for Outstanding Student Achievement and the USSBA Outstanding All-Star Jazz Soloist. On the statewide level, she has participated in the NJ All-State Chorus and the NJ-IAJE Honors Jazz Chorus. Planning to become a professional Musical Director/Orchestral Conductor, she will be entering the freshman class of Carnegie Mellon University School of Music in the fall to study Piano Performance with Conducting Specialization. Ms. Zervoulis thanks WYACT for giving her the opportunity to begin her career in the field of Musical Direction.

Technical Director - ZEKE ZACCARO has worked as an actor and technician in theater, film, opera, television and dance for more than a quarter-century, in venues ranging from summer stock barns to Off-Off Broadway storefronts to the Metropolitan Opera. An avid sailor, Mr. Zaccaro has navigated the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, the Aegean and the Black Seas among other bodies of water. His longest, though not necessarily his most harrowing, journey was a trans-Atlantic passage from La Rochelle, France, to Atlantic City.

Marketing and Press Relations Coordinator - HELENE YATRAKIS, a native of New Jersey, is in her fourth year at Columbia University in New York. A BA candidate majoring in Creative Writing and Photography, and on the Dean's List for academic excellence, she is currently balancing her studies with outside work till graduation in December 2002. Her work experience over the last three years include math and language tutoring which is ongoing; historical research in 2001 for "Granite International Management" (a real estate management and brokerage firm); and writing grant proposals in 2000 for the non-profit "City Arts" Corporation which provides art programs for underprivileged children. No less significant and considered her main passion, she remains actively involved with theatrical production. Whether onstage, writing or directing on-campus production, she remembers the values, traditions and professional training she learned as a WYACT alumna. She performed in WYACT's *The Threepenny Opera* (in 1999) and *Merrily We Roll Along* (in 1997), and often provided assistance in areas of publicity, ticket sales and fundraising. She welcomes the return to WYACT this year and especially the opportunity to help market and promote *South Pacific* and *Dames at Sea*.



Staff Biographies

Continued

Ad Sales and Program Coordinator: **LYNDSEY BENITO** is thrilled to be joining WYACT for the first time and is thankful that her extensive background as an administrator working with young people has helped her in this position. She wishes to thank Ted, Cynthia and especially her partner, Gus, for their support and guidance in this endeavor.

Company Manager – SUSAN MEYERS is thrilled to be participating in WYACT this season as Company Manager. Although this is her first time in this position, she has had extensive experience engaging her organizational, interpersonal and entrepreneurial skills, having successfully established and grown her own business. Ms. Meyers has greatly enjoyed the company management of *South Pacific* and *Dames at Sea* and is looking forward to future seasons with WYACT. She would like to thank her husband Alan and their three children, Louis, Douglas and Chelsea for their support and understanding throughout this production season.

General Manager – THEODORE J. AGRESS, has had a successful and diversified career in both theatrical and non-theatrical endeavors over the last 30 years. Starting in show business at age 17 as an aspiring actor led to a 20 year professional career on Broadway, National Tours, TV Soaps and film in productions such as the original *Hello Dolly* (with Carol Channing and Ginger Rogers), *Dear World* (with Angela Lansbury), *Woman of the Year* (with Lauren Bacall), *Coco* (with Katherine Hepburn), *As the World Turns*, *All My Children*, *One Life to Live*, *Ryan's Hope*, *Captains & the Kings*, *Trip to Holocaust*, *Most Wanted* and many others. In search of change and other challenges, he found new opportunities, non-theatrical, for the next 10 years working in middle management at two major pharmaceutical companies in New Jersey, Ciba-Geigy and Merck & Co., achieving major business challenges for these corporations. In his spare time, still with one foot in theatre, he decided to help his wife Cynthia develop one of the most successful youth theatre companies in New Jersey, namely WYACT, now in its 11th successful year. Before managing the business of WYACT, he was the Associate General Manager of the Paper Mill Playhouse.

WYACT EXECUTIVE STAFF

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR.....	Cynthia Meryl
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We gratefully acknowledge the following people who have given
generously of their time and talents to make "South Pacific" a reality.

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ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER.....	Kwame Micah
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR.....	Zeke Zaccaro
DANCE CAPTAIN.....	Todd Kubrak
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AUDIO.....	Mike Sinclair, Stephen Tolve, Tino Diaz, Hugh Sinclair
PHOTOGRAPHY.....	Jeremiah Bean
PARTY CHAIRPERSON.....	Cynthia Hemphill, Eileen Ingoglia
WYACT ATTORNEY.....	Robert J. Bloodgood, Esq.
NUPAC CASTING CONSULTANTS.....	Carla Brothers, Sanaz Hojreh

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